

REMARKS

I. Current Status of the Application

Claims 1 – 18 were pending in this application and subject to a restriction/election requirement. Claims 1 – 13 are canceled. Therefore, claims 14 – 18 are currently pending. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of the canceled claims in this or a subsequent application that claims priority to this application.

The specification has been modified to correct minor grammatical/typographical errors.

Regarding the drawings, the Examiner has not indicated whether the formal drawings submitted on September 11, 2008, have been accepted or rejected. Applicants respectfully request an indication of whether the Examiner has accepted these drawings.

II. Election of Invention

Applicants elect Group II, upon which claims 14 – 18 are readable.

III. Election of Species

Applicants elect Species A, upon which all the elected claims (claims 14 – 18) are readable.

Appl. No. 10/657,087
Amdt. dated January 29, 2009
Reply to Office action of January 6, 2009

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully request that the above-referenced application be examined on the merits. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative to discuss any issue that would expedite allowance of the subject application.

Any fees for extension(s) of time or additional fees that are required in connection with the filing of this response are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such required fees or to credit any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon LLP Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 29, 2009

/Zeba Ali/
Zeba Ali, Reg. No. 51,392

Kenyon & Kenyon LLP
1500 K Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005-1257
Telephone: (202) 220-4200
Facsimile: (202) 220-4201